GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:707
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2005
TACKLING DROUGHT
Rathod Shri Harisingh Nasaru;Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a)Whether the Union Government has received any representation/ request from State Governments for financial and other assistance to tackle drought;

(b) If so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) He reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (A. NARENDRA)

(a) to (c): Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) is being implemented in 16 programme states with the objective o f drought proofing by rejuvenating the natural resource base on long term basis. Under DPAP, Ministry of Rural Development sanctions new projects,each o f 5 0 0 hectares,as per the Guidelines of Watershed Development and funds are released t o ZPs/DRDAs in installments over the project period of five years. The first installment of central funds is released with the sanction of new projects and the programme being demand driven, subsequent installments are released on receipt of specific proposals from the State Government/ ZP/DRDA along with Utilisation Certificate, Audited Statement of Accounts etc. The Ministry routinely receives proposals seeking fund release against on-going projects from the States/District Agencies.While releasing the central installments, it is ensured that ZP/DRDA has utilised more than 50% of funds released to it earlier. Accordingly, an amount of about Rs.280.00 crore has been released to the programme states during the year 2004-05 till date.